Message Text

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PAGE 01 HONG K 06893 150915Z ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 NEA-10 ISO-00 DHA-02 VO-03 SCA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INSE-00 AID-05 SSO-00 /033 W

-----150929Z 074482 /20

O R 150831Z JUN 77
FM AMCONGEN HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5302
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

UNCLAS HONG KONG 6893

AMEMBASSY TEL AVI

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SREF

SUBJ: CONDITIONAL ENTRY PROGRAM: HONG KONG

1. UK IMMIGRATION INFORMS 3 SHIPS WITH TOTAL 75 REFUGEES; MV GREEN SEA, LIBERIAN FLAG (46) MV TOYAMA, NORWEGIAN FLAG (19); MV TAI ON, PANAMANIAN FLAG (10) GIVEN PERMISSION TO LAND REFUGEES HERE AS COUNTRY OF FIRST ASYLUM. THIRTY TWO REFUGEES RESCUSED BY PANAMANIAN FLAG VESSEL MV YANCEY WERE LANDED HERE JUNE 10. WITH NEW ARRIVALS TOTAL NUMBER I-C BOAT CASES IN HONG KONG HAS RISEN TO 181.

2. ANOTHER SHIP, THE MV YUVALIA, LIBERIAN FLAG, ATTEMPTED TO LAND 68 REFUGEES HERE AFTER PICKING THEM UP SOUTH CHINA SEA JUNE 11. ISRAELI OWNERS WERE INFORMED BY HKG THAT REFUGEES NOT PERMITTED TO LAND SINCE ORIGINAL DESTINATION KEE LUNG, TAIWAN AND THAT ROC SHOULD BE COUNTRY OF FIRST ASYLUM. THERE IS CHANCE YUVALIA MAY ATTEMPT ENTER HONG KONG ANYWAY, BUT UNCLASSIFIED

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MARINE DEPT HAS WARNED AGAINST THIS, SAYING DEPARTURE MAY NOT BE PERMITTED FOR SAFETY REASONS AND SHIP MAY BE TIED UP INDEFINITELY UNTIL REFUGEES CAN BE REMOVED.

3. UNHCR KALA LUMPUR HAS INFORMED HKG HTAT IT CANNOT OF COURSE PREVAIL UPON TAIWAN AUTHORITIES

TO TAKE REFUGEES. HK IMMIGRATION HAS ASKED WE USE OUR GOOD OFFICES WITH ROC IN THIS MATTER - OBVISOULY FEARING REFUSAL THERE WILL BRING SHIP BACK TO HONG KONG. HKG, OF COURSE, UNWILLING TO APPROACH ROC DIRECTLY,

4. APPRECIATE EMBASSY TAIPEI COMMENTS AND REPORT THIS MATTER. SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

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